

Application No.: 09/543,962

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 19 and 28 have been amended.

The Examiner requested correction of the cross reference to related application cited in the specification on page 1. Applicants are aware of no related applications mentioned in the specification and request the Examiner indicate where in the specification this cross reference is located.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. The Examiner stated that in Claims 1, 19 and 28 the claimed context ("personality") is indefinite because it is unclear if context is the same as "personality". Claims 1, 19 and 28 have been amended to claim, in part, "a personality, wherein a personality comprises a theme or context associated with the document" and are believed to be definite. Claims 1, 19 and 28 were also indicated to be indefinite because of the second reference to "a service provider". Claims 1, 19 and 28 have been amended and are believed to be definite.

Claims 1-18 and 19-37 were rejected under 35 USC §101 because they appear to be comprised of software alone without claiming associated computer hardware required for execution. Claim 1 has been amended to include a computer having a memory storing a meta-document. The scheduler may be implemented in software, but it is not required (see the specification on page 6, lines 4-5). Claim 19 has been amended to recite a computer-implemented . . . method. Claim 28 has been amended to recite a computer-readable medium storing a meta-document.

Claims 1-37 were rejected under 36 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Barrera et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,567,800) in view of Doyle (U.S. Patent No. 6,510,432). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Barrera teaches a standard search engine using a web browser. Barrera describes a system and method for searching information stored on websites. Barrera's system is a standard search engine, in that a user opens a web browser, navigates to the search engine website, selects a topic to search (by typing in a search request or clicking on a pre-defined category) and the search engine returns results which are displayed in a page of a web browser. Barrera et al. is concerned

Application No.: 09/543,962

with the problem of returning better results than other search engines (such as Yahoo and Alta Vista). Barrera et al. describes a system for searching websites that combines category searching with content searching. In the system of Barrera et al. the scope of a search is first narrowed by identifying websites that correspond with a category pertinent to the desired information. Next a keyword search is carryout out on the content of websites that fall within the pertinent category (see col. 2, lines 55-61).

Barrera does not teach or suggest a meta-document which includes in part "a document including content information" and "a set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a personality, associated with the document" and "integrated results". Fig. 1 of Barrera is not a meta-document. As best Fig. 1 can be understood, there is no "content" per se. All of the information displayed in Fig. 1 appears to be category links that a user can click. Upon clicking on for example, Arts & Humanities 101, a new web page is displayed, Fig. 2.

Barrera's categories are not document service requests "wherein a document service comprises a process for using a portion of the document's content information as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information. Clicking on Arts & Humanities 101 uses no content from Fig. 1 "as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content", since there is essentially no content. Clicking on Arts & Humanities 101 produces Fig. 2 which is essentially a listing of sub-categories under Arts & Humanities 101.

Barrera does not teach or suggest a meta-document which includes in part "a document including content information" and "a set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a personality, associated with the document" and "integrated results". Referring to Fig. 4 of Barrera, a user has typed in a specific search request (choosing not to use any of the pre-defined categories) and the search engine has returned 308773 results, displaying the first 6. Fig. 4 of Barrera does not include the "document including content information" and the "set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a personality, associated with the document".

Fig. 7 of Barrera shows an interface for a search page according to the invention of Barrera, in that a user can select to search on a category (subject 701) and by keyword. Again, there appears to be no content associated with Fig.7; only categories to click on. Fig. 8 of

Application No.: 09/543,962

Barrera shows a search result page; which does not include the "document including content information" and the "set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a personality, associated with the document".

Applicants' system and method is document driven, in that "a document service comprises a process for using a portion of the document's content information as a starting point to obtain other information from a service provider pertaining to the document's content information." Applicants' meta-document includes the "document including content information", the "set of pre-packaged document service requests based on a personality, associated with the document" and "integrated results".

Neither Barrera nor Doyle teach or suggest "a scheduler for autonomously activating and managing the document service requests without user intervention by periodically polling the meta-document for document service requests". Barrera requires user input. Barrera's system requires a user's specific request, either by clicking a category or by typing in search terms and then clicking "ok". Barrera teaches "spider such as Vspider can be advantageously used to collect the content to be searched (col. 4, lines 13-14). Using a spider to collect content to be searched is not the same thing as "autonomously activating and managing the document service requests".

Doyle teaches a system and method for archiving information from a plurality of web servers by specifying at least one topic to be searched. See col. 1, lines 41-44. Doyle is concerned with updating and archiving topical search results. Doyle teaches identifying a document associated with at least one topic and analyzing the document so as to identify characteristics of the document associated with the at least one topic associated with the document. A search may be developed based on the identified characteristics of the document so as to search for information associated with the at least one topic. See col. 2, lines 19 - 26. Documents are useful to Doyle's system only in so far as they provide additional information pertaining to the at least one topic.

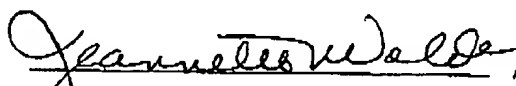
Claims 1, 19 or 28 are believed to be allowable over the cited reference. Claims 2-18, 20-27 and 29-37 depend from Claims 1, 19 and 28, respectively, and are also believed to be allowable over the cited references.

Application No.: 09/543,962

No additional fee is believed to be required for this amendment; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney hereby authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

Reconsideration of this application and allowance thereof are earnestly solicited. In the event the Examiner considers a personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned Attorney for Applicants, Jeannette Walder.

Respectfully submitted,



Jeannette M. Walder
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,698
Telephone: (714) 565-1700

Xerox Corporation
Santa Ana, California
Date: May 5, 2006